



# Harford County Stormwater Pollution Prevention

## SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

Proper waste management and disposal can play a very important role in reducing the amount of litter and pollutants entering the storm drain system and polluting waterways. Dumpsters and solid waste disposal can contribute to water pollution when leakage occurs with emptying, when drain plugs or lids are open, or if the bottom is damaged or rusted.



### Pollution Prevention Techniques for Solid Waste Management

- ✓ Designate an area for trash collection away from storm drains and on a concrete or impervious surface. Design waste handling areas to contain spills and prevent contact with stormwater.
- ✓ Keep dumpsters under cover or ensure they have working lids. Ensure container lids fit securely, are watertight, and are closed at all times. Open lids allow contact with storm water which dissolves and transports contaminants into the storm water system.
- ✓ Walk the site and inspect dumpsters, trash cans, and trash compactors for leakage. Ensure dumpsters and waste containers are in good condition with no holes or accumulation of grime
- ✓ Trash containers should be leak free. If any leaks are found, take action to prevent and contain further leakage. Call your trash hauler to replace any dumpsters that are damaged or leak.
- ✓ Post signs to remind employees of best practices and proper use.
- ✓ Keep the trash collection area clean, dry, and free of debris. Sweep the area regularly. Collect trash and litter before it can be washed into the storm drain system. If any leaks or spills are detected, clean with dry practices.
- ✓ Schedule pickups with solid waste contractors frequently and don't allow overflow.
- ✓ Ensure trash collection areas are connected to a sanitary sewer. Ensure dumpsters are disconnected from storm drain systems by keeping dumpsters and runoff from away from any inlets or storm drain systems.
- ✓ Minimize the amount of liquid disposed in dumpsters. Do not fill with large amounts of liquid waste. Do not hose out a dumpster to clean it unless flow is sure to be captured and directed to a sanitary sewer system.
- ✓ Dispose of all unwanted toxic materials like cleaners, solvents and detergents through a hazardous waste hauler.
- ✓ Minimize storage of scrap metal by disposing of it periodically. Cover any trash stockpiles with impervious cover to prevent release of contaminants.
- ✓ Ensure all garbage is bagged and placed securely inside dumpsters with lids and doors closed.